



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FY-02-97

PSC DENIES CITIZENS ELECTRIC CORPORATION REQUEST FOR INTERIM RATE RELIEF DECEMBER 1

Jefferson City (November 30, 2001)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has denied a request filed by Citizens Electric Corporation which sought a Commission decision on an interim electric rate increase of \$6.5 million by December 1, 2001.

The Commission's order states: "The Commission finds that there is not sufficient evidence to determine if interim rates are appropriate on an expedited basis. Furthermore, the company states that its contract for the purchase of wholesale power is not effective until January 1, 2002. Therefore, the Commission will deny Citizens' request for interim rates to be approved by December 1, 2001." The Commission has directed the parties to continue their negotiations and to file an agreement or a request for a hearing regarding the issue of interim rate relief no later than December 21, 2001.

On November 1, 2001, Citizens Electric Corporation (Citizens) filed a \$6.5 million electric rate case with the Missouri Public Service Commission. Citizens seeks an interim rate increase, which would be subject to refund. The interim increase, if approved, would stay in effect until the Commission decides the permanent rate request. Citizens states the rate increase is necessary due to the increased costs of energy on the wholesale market.

According to Citizens, a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours a month pays \$73.89 for that amount of electricity. Under the Citizens proposal, that rate would increase to \$85.80 a month, an increase of approximately 16.1% above current rates.

Citizens Electric Corporation serves approximately 24,330 electric customers in the Missouri counties of Ste. Genieve, St. Francois, Cape Girardeau and Perry.

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Case No. ER-2002-217

